

NUTRITIONIST

DEFINITION:

Under general direction, to provide technical, educational, consultative and administrative nutrition related services; and to perform other related work.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

Nutritionist is responsible for organizing, planning and conducting programs concerning nutrition to assist in the promotion of health and control of disease. It is distinguished from Dietitian in that the latter class is more directly involved with the delivery of services. The Nutritionist is primarily a consultant and may perform administrative work in special programs and projects.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Nutritionist provides technical, education, consultative and administrative nutrition related services; organizes, plans, and conducts programs concerning nutrition to assist in the promotion of health and control of disease; reviews eligibility for nutrition services; consults with therapists, nurse case managers and health care providers to assess patient needs for nutritional assessments and interventions; provides education to nurse case managers, therapy unit staff, physicians, school personnel, community based organizations and others on nutritional issues and programs; involves patient and family in case management of nutrition and medical food care plans; coordinates with other agencies/providers to assure adequate services for nutritional need for patients and the public.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Thorough Knowledge of:

- Principles, educational techniques and current practices of program development on a variety of nutrition topics.
- Methods of supervision and training of medical and paramedical staff in nutritional aspects of health.
- Special diet therapy.
- Nutritional food values and applications to community needs.
- Disease related to nutritional deficiencies.
- Program planning, implementation and evaluation in a variety of settings.

General Knowledge of:

- Report writing.
- Public health systems.
- Public health laws.
- Laws, rules, and regulations governing the operation of health care agencies and programs.
- Health care community resources.

Skills and Abilities to:

- Interview and understand client needs.
- Plan, coordinate and implement nutritional programs in a variety of settings.
- Research and analyze new data regarding nutrition.
- Communicate effectively information relative to foods and nutrition.
- Provide individual nutritional counseling.
- Design and deliver nutritional training.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

Education, training or experience, which clearly demonstrate possession of the knowledge, skills and abilities stated above. Examples of qualifying education/experience are:

1. A master's degree in public health nutrition sciences from an accredited institution; OR,
2. Registration as a dietitian with the American Dietetic Association.

SPECIAL NOTES, LICENSES, OR REQUIREMENTS:**License:**

A valid California Class C driver's license is required at time of appointment or the ability to arrange transportation for field travel. Employees in this class may be required to use their own personal vehicle.

